

## Message Text

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47

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EA-06 EUR-12 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-02

NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /116 W

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R 091059Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2539

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, CE

SUBJ: SRI LANKA POSITION ON BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

REF: STATE 040761

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBOFF ON MARCH 20 AND APRIL 8 AT MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MDFA), DEPUTY DIRECTOR UN AND CONFERENCE DIVISION KATHIRAMALAINATHAN MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS CONCERNING BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION:

2. GSL HAS NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO RATIFY CONVENTION AND IS STILL IN PROCESS PREPARING POSITION PAPER FOR CABINET CONSIDERATION. RESERVATIONS EXIST WITHIN MDFA BECAUSE OF ABSENCE OF PROVISIONS FOR VERIFICATION AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF CONVENTION AND, TO LESSER DEGREE, BECAUSE SMALL NATIONS HAD LITTLE INFLUENCE ON TERMS OF CONVENTION DRAFTED BY "GREAT POWERS". PREOCCUPATION WITH OTHER ISSUES MAKES RATIFICATION OF MARGINAL PRIORITY TO GSL. POSITION OF USG IN FAVOR OF WIDEST POSSIBLE RATIFICATION CONVEYED TO SENIOR LEVELS OF GSL. SOVIET EMBASSY HAS ALSO APPROACHED MDFA TO ENCOURAGE RATIFICATION.

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3. COMMENT: LIKE GSL POSITION ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, GSL SEEMS TO VIEW ITS RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES AS OF GREATER IMPORTANCE THAN RATIFICATION OF CONVENTION. THERE WAS SUGGESTION IN KATHIRAMALAINATHAN'S REMARKS THAT, WHERE POSSIBLE, GSL WOULD PREFER TO FOLLOW PRC LEAD IN RESPECT TO BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND SOME OTHER MAJOR ISSUES OF GLOBAL SCOPE.  
VAN HOLLEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY RATIFICATION, BIOLOGICAL WARFARE WEAPONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** woolflhd  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 040761  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** woolflhd  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2003  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** PARM, PFOR, CE  
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